

Maricopa County Animal Care & Control

(AC&C) is

“dedicated to promoting and
protecting the health, safety, and welfare of pets and people in
Maricopa County”

*AC&C is a full service animal welfare organization with
animal care centers, adoptions, field services,
licensing and education programs.*

West Valley Animal Care Center and mailing address:

**2323 S. 35th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85009
(602) 506-PETS (7387)
pets.maricopa.gov**

Help Us To Help You!

Other Animal Care Center locations:

**2630 W. 8th St. Mesa
5231 N. 35th Ave Phoenix**

Maricopa County Animal Care & Control

***The Link Between
Animal Cruelty
& Family Violence***



For More Information
or Training Programs Available
Please Contact :
AC&C at (602) 506-3471 or
E-mail: jbank@mail.maricopa.gov

Eight Steps to a Non-Violent Future

1. Take animal and child abuse seriously, and report it to your local law enforcement or child welfare agency. Abuse must be stopped! People who repeatedly and intentionally hurt animals or children need incarceration, counseling, or other intervention.
2. Encourage professionals, such as judges, Animal Care & Control officers, doctors, social workers, teachers, and ministers to familiarize themselves with the link between cruelty to animals and family violence.
3. If you have children, practice positive parenting styles. To learn about such methods, consult with your local mental health center, social service agency, or the United Way.
4. Instill compassion and humane values in young people by showing that you value people, animals and the environment.
5. Question the glorification of violence in sports, the media, and entertainment. Nonviolent problem-solving skills, compassion, and self-control must be valued by society to be valued by children.
6. If animal or child abuse was part of your personal history, you may need to seek professional counseling to fully understand the effect these acts have had on you and your family. Often the cycle of violence can be broken by a desire to stop the abuse.
7. Use your political voice and vote on issues relevant to education, social service delivery, and allocation of funds toward improving the quality of life for people and animals in your community and country.
8. Support organizations that protect animals and children from abuse by volunteering or financially contributing.

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Animal Cruelty Falls Under Arizona Revised Statutes

Criminal Code-Title 13 Chapter 29 - Offenders Against Public Order

- 13-2910 - Cruelty to animals; interference with working or service animal; classification; definitions**
- 13-2910.01 - Dog fighting; classification**
- 13-2910.02 - Presence at dog fight; classification**
- 13-2910.03 - Cockfighting; classification**
- 13-2910.04 - Presence at cockfight; classification**
- 13-2910.05 - Exempt activities**
- 13-2910.06 - Defense to cruelty to animals and bird fighting**

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Signs Suggestive of Animal Neglect, Abuse or Cruelty

Lack of food or water:	especially if grown into the neck (includes regular collars)
Animal is underweight or has no water available.	Tied or caged:
Lack of shelter:	With little room to move. Unable to stand or turn.
Animal is contained in an area exposed to inclement weather.	Burns:
Severe matting or filth:	Chemical or heat.
Ungroomed, stinky, greasy or filthy coat.	Trauma:
Poor body condition:	Shooting, stabbing, strangling, beating.
Underweight, open sores, hair loss, tick or flea infested.	Multiple wounds or fractures:
Lack of Veterinary care for illness or injury:	In various stages of healing.
Limping, broken limb, congested eyes & ears.	Poisoning / Drugs:
Lack of sanitation:	Mutilation:
Feces and/or debris-covered living area.	Including ear cropping, tail docking and neutering at home.
Abandonment:	Evidence of fighting:
Animal left in house or yard.	Especially Pit Bull Terriers. Including training implements, treadmills, spring poles, etc.
Chains:	Behavior:
Or padlocks around the neck,	Severely hand-shy, cowering,

Teaching About Respect & Kindness....

Learning	Designing programs that offer the maximum benefits of learning. Child development and learning styles should be taken into consideration.
Adults & Children	Programs that are designed for children and adults to learn together and separately.
Kindness	Learning to be kind through positive experiences with animals.
Empathy	Helping people by being sympathetic towards the needs and feelings of other living creatures.
Respect	Helping people to see the worth of animals and the environment thereby acting with care rather than violence or neglect.
Responsibility	Showing the need to take responsibility for the animals that are in our homes and community. Working to protect the planet we share with other animals and plant life.
Animals	Accurate information in order to help the learner understand animals and their needs.
Humans	Programs that show the connection between humans and animals, how humans depend on animals and how animals depend on humans.
Compassion	Helping us know and feel our responsibilities towards animals.
Critical Thinking	Giving the tools so people can understand the consequences of their actions
Responsible Pet Ownership	Understanding how to provide for the animals that we bring into our home as companions. Understanding which animals make appropriate pets and which do not.

Motivations For Cruel & Extremely Aggressive Behaviors to Animals by Humans

- ***To express human aggressions through an animal***

Often humans will express their own violent aggressive behaviors through the violent behaviors of an animal e.g. pit bull fighting.

- ***Displacement of hostility from a person to an animal***

Displaced aggression against authority figures e.g. a child who is being physically or mentally abused will often exhibit their hurt by abusing a family pet or other animal.

- ***To enhance aggressiveness***

To improve one's aggressive skills. Often animal abuse is a precursor to human abuse and violence or a way a person can relive a past experience of violence to a human.

- ***To retaliate against another person***

To exhibit power over another person by hurting something they care about.

- ***To shock people for amusement***

To impress others with a capacity for violence.

- ***To retaliate against an animal***

Extreme punishment or revenge for a presumed wrong on the part of the animal.

- ***To control an animal***

To control or shape an animal's behavior or eliminate certain naturally occurring behaviors in animals.

- ***To satisfy a prejudice against a species or breed***

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Continued..... Frequently asked questions about stray Animals in Maricopa County

cost \$10 for altered dogs and \$25 for unaltered dogs. Cat licenses can be purchased for \$5 (altered cat) or \$10 (unaltered cat). Licenses can be purchased at all three locations, on-line at pets.maricopa.gov, or via telephone. All dogs are required to be on leash or confined on your property at all times. If you see a dog off the leash in one of the jurisdictions listed above, contact our Call Center at (602)506-PETS.

ANIMAL ADOPTIONS

Once an animal is deemed adoptable there is no set time that an animal is held available for adoption. This is based solely upon availability of space at our centers and the continued health and temperament of the animal. Animals that are turned in by an owner are evaluated within 24 hours; if suitable, they are then made available for adoption. Adoptions are held at all three of our Animal Care Centers. AC&C has a sliding scale adoption fee that allows us to care for and place animals that require special medical care, grooming or training. The Guardian Angel program allows AC&C to adjust adoption fees from \$0 (for animals with temperament challenges) to \$150 (for animals that receive a high level of interest from the public). On average, the adoption fee is \$70 for dogs, and \$55 for cats. The fee includes sterilization, a microchip, vaccinations and a license.

Continued..... ***Frequently asked questions
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ANIMAL SERVICES

AC&C provides numerous free or low cost medical and educational services to the public. Services include vaccinations, spay/neuter surgery, medical care and tick dipping. Call (602) 506-PETS for more information.

DEAD ANIMALS

Contact your local city government. In the unincorporated areas of Maricopa County, call (602) 506-PETS. If you are reporting a dead dog or cat in the roadway contact your local jurisdiction's refuse removal services.

DOG LICENSES AND DOGS OFF LEASH

Animal Control Officers enforce the animal control ordinances in the cities and towns we contract with (Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe, Paradise Valley, Chandler, Gilbert, Queen Creek, Cave Creek, Carefree, Guadalupe, Glendale, Tolleson, Goodyear, Gila Bend) , as well as the unincorporated areas of Maricopa County. We also contract with the Avondale and Peoria Police Departments for assistance when they contact us directly (but not the citizens of these towns). All dogs in Maricopa County are required to have a current rabies vaccination and a dog license. AC&C offers vaccinations for \$10 at all three locations. Dog licenses

***Cruelty to animals takes on numerous forms in the
context of family violence***

- Parents kill a pet to punish the child.
- Parents threaten to kill a child's pet to secure acquiescence or silence for sexual abuse.
- Children kill pets to rehearse their own suicide.
- Children kill animals before a dominant adult can do so.
- Children torture animals as gang initiation rites or to gain status from their peers.
- Batterers force partners to engage in sex with the family pet.
- Children identify with their abusers and begin to abuse animals themselves.
- Children create a fiercely loyal bond with an animal and escape to an imaginary world where the abuser cannot hurt either of them.
- Adult victims of domestic violence prolong leaving an abusive relationship due to the fear of harm to the family pet.

Cruelty to Animals & Human Violence: A Compelling Connection

A summary of research

- 1966 A triad of behaviors in children proves to be a reliable predictor of future criminal activity. These are: 1) Cruelty to Animals, 2) Setting fires, 3) Bed wetting after age five. Hellman & Blackman
- 1970 The Behavioral Science Unit of the FBI investigates the psychodynamics of serial killers. They find that cruelty to animals is consistent in their history.
- 1971-1977 Children who commit animal cruelties are studied longitudinally. Animal abuse predicts and correlates with long term anti-social behaviors such as lying, stealing and bullying in males Tapia & Rigdon
- 1980 Male psychiatric patients with animal abuse in their history were more likely to have an alcoholic father, and witnessed cruelty to animals. Felthous
- 1983 In a study of 53 families in NJ, 88% of families convicted of child abuse or neglect were also convicted of abuse of a family pet. Deviney, Dickert, Lockwood
- 1985 A study found significantly higher rates of cruelty towards animals among aggressive criminals as compared with non-aggressive criminals. Animal cruelty predicted future violence. Kellart & Felthous
- 1991 A study of persons convicted of homicide found that in some cases animals were killed to relive the experience of killing humans. Hickey
- 1995 Children growing up in homes where there is domestic violence and sexual abuse are at risk for committing animal abuse. Schecter & Edelson
- 1997 In a large national sample of battered women seeking safety in shelters, 71% reported that their pets were threatened or harmed. Schecter & Edelson
- 1997 The Mass. SPCA and Northwestern University examined the criminal records of 153 animal abusers and 153 non-abusers over a 20 year period. They found that people who abused animals were five times more likely than non-abusers to commit violent crimes against people.

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Continued..... Frequently asked questions about stray Animals in Maricopa County

AC&C will assist law enforcement agencies with cruelty investigations when animal handling, medical care and experts are needed. *We strongly encourage all law enforcement agencies to take animal abuse seriously and enforce the laws.* If a law enforcement agency is involved in an animal cruelty case and needs our assistance to impound an animal, if possible, please contact us in advance so our staff can prepare and maintain appropriate records. Remember, unless told otherwise, all impounded animals will be considered stray (held for 72 hours) or Hold (if an owner is known, 7 days). If you are charging someone with animal cruelty please follow up with AC&C staff and send a court hold immediately. Without the court hold, we are obligated to return the animal to the owner if they claim him.

INJURED ANIMALS

AC&C's STAR program will provide needed medical care to sick or injured stray animals in an emergency situation. If you encounter an injured animal, contact our Call Center at (602)506-PETS. An animal control officer will bring the animal into our clinic who will assess the animal's needs. Whenever possible, injured animals are given medical attention and placed in foster care for recovery. Once cured, the animal is placed up for adoption. This is a program that is run by donations.

Continued..... ***Frequently asked questions
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In general, animals will not be held longer than the normal 72-hour or 7-day holding period without a court order. Therefore, law enforcement officials need to keep in close contact with AC&C during investigations.

Once the holding period is up, animals are evaluated for their temperament and health to determine if they are eligible for adoption. Please call (602) 506-PETS for assistance with a stray or aggressive dog. Please call (602) 506-1309 if you are a police officer or dispatcher needing assistance after hours. **This number is not to be given out to the public!** All other parties should call their local police department after hours in the case of an animal emergency.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

AC&C does not have the legislative authority to enforce animal cruelty laws; therefore, we rely on local law enforcement and the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office to enforce State statutes (13-2910) and local ordinances. Members of the public are encouraged to contact their local law enforcement agency if animal cruelty is witnessed.

Child Violence in the News

- Kip Kinkel, 15 years old, allegedly opened fire on his classmates at his Oregon high school cafeteria. Two died and twenty two were injured. His parents were found dead the same day. Kinkel often bragged of torturing animals.
- Two young brothers, ages 7 and 8, and their 11 year old friend, beat and sexually assaulted a three year old. The two brothers had been involved with Animal cruelty.
- Mitchell Johnson and Andrew Golden, age 11, allegedly shot and killed four students and one teacher in Arkansas. It is reported that Andrew bragged of shooting dogs "all the time with a .22."
- Michael Varneal, age 14 allegedly shot and killed three Kentucky classmates. He also bragged of throwing a cat on a bonfire.
- Five Florida teenagers, members of a self-styled "vampire cult", were arrested in the bludgeoning deaths of a member's parents; media accounts include animal torture and mutilation as part of their rituals.
- Luke Woodham, age 16, allegedly shot his mother and killed two classmates and injured seven others. He wrote in his journal that he had beat, burned and tortured the family dog, Sparkle, to death; he described it as "true beauty."
- A 17 year old boy was convicted of drowning a puppy with gasoline and setting it on fire in Phoenix, Arizona.
- A 17-year-old boy was arrested on drug charges and later admitted to being a member of a satanic cult that killed cats in Ahwatukee, Arizona. The following poetry was written by him and found in his room: Outcast of Society - Running from the truth, Maybe truth kills, Causing havoc & releasing mayhem on innocents, Only way we know how to pay society back, Killing to delight, Bleeding to consume, ... to release, Now screw your goat like a good little nympho, Vampires of life, Preying upon Love, Like a shadowy wrath, For love is false reality, And, only we know the truth and the truth kills.

"Anyone who has accustomed himself to regard the life of any living creature as worthless is in danger of arriving at the idea of worthless human lives."

Albert Schweitzer

Known serial killers

- Albert Desalvo, (a.k.a. The Boston Strangler) who killed thirteen woman in 1962-1963 trapped dogs and cats in orange crates and shot arrows through the box.
- Edmund Emil Kemper III who killed eight women had a history of abusing dogs and cats.
- David Berkowitz (a.k.a. The Son of Sam) who pleaded guilty to thirteen murder and attempted murder charges shot a neighbor's dog in 1976-1977. He claimed the dog was the spiritual force that compelled him to kill.
- Brenda Spencer, a sixteen-year-old girl who went on a rifle rampage in 1979, was reported as setting the tails of dogs and cats on fire.
- James Huberty gunned down twenty one people in a restaurant in 1984. As a teenager, he shot his neighbor's dog with an air gun.
- Carrol Edward Cole murdered five woman and has said his first violent act as a child was strangling a puppy.
- Theodore Bundy was convicted of killing woman in 1989 and was linked to graves filled with animal bones found in Utah.
- Jeffrey Dahmer killed, mutilated, and cannibalized his victims. As a teenager he kept frogs and cats impaled on sticks or staked to trees. He preserved animal skeletons in a backyard shed and in his own twisted cemetery.

Frequently asked questions about stray animals in Maricopa County

UNWANTED AND STRAY ANIMALS

Maricopa County Animal Care & Control (AC&C) runs lost & found as well as adoption centers for stray and unwanted dogs and cats. We also impound dogs in police emergencies, quarantine dogs and cats that have bitten a human being, and assist law enforcement agencies with animal-related issues, including animal cruelty or abuse, in the unincorporated areas of the County and the cities/towns that we contract with. AC&C field officers do not pick up cats unless they have bitten a human being; however, they can be brought to either of our centers.

Once a dog or cat comes into an Animal Care & Control Center as a stray, meaning we don't know his owner, he is held a minimum of 72 hours in the hopes of finding the owner. If the animal is wearing identification, micro-chipped or tattooed, we will attempt to contact the owner and hold the animal up to 7 days. Unless an animal has clear identification, has been impounded in a police related situation and the police tells us who the owner is or, AC&C is told otherwise, the animal will be impounded as a stray.